

Appl. No. 10/027,136  
 Amtd. Dated November 19, 2003  
 Reply to Office Action of August 19, 2003  
 Docket No. ONDAT-019US

# REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The foregoing amendment and the remarks which follow are responsive to the non-final office action dated August 19, 2003. In the Office Action, Claims 1-3 and 7-10 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Canterbury (US 6,019,861) in view of Serizawa (US 6,368,432 B2). Also in the Office Action, independent Claim 11 was allowed.

Following entry of the present amendment Claims 1-3, 7, 8, and 10-15 will be pending in this application. By this amendment, the preamble of independent Claim 1 is amended to change the word "comprising" to the words "consisting essentially of." Claims 4-5 have been withdrawn as the result of an earlier restriction requirement. Also, by this amendment, Claim 9 is cancelled and new Claims 12-15 have been added. New Claims 12-14 are similar to allowed claim 11 and are believed to be in condition for allowance. New claim 15 recites the general subject matter of Claim 1 with the addition of component e (i.e., the inclusion of a stabilizer and/or combustion catalyst).

The gas generating composition disclosed by Canterbury is essentially silicon (see, Col. 6, lines 23-41). Serizawa discloses ammonium nitrate based gas generating compositions. However, Serizawa does not teach or suggest the use of metal oxyacid salt and ammonium perchlorate. Applicant's claimed gas-generating composition does not require silicon. Therefore, the claimed invention is quite different from Canterbury, and even if Canterbury and Serizawa are combined, the claimed invention would not render obvious the presently claimed invention.

As to the claim of priority under 35 USC §§ 119 and 120, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner confirm that the priority document has been filed.

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For the reasons stated above as well as other reasons not specifically stated here, Applicant submits that pending Claims 1-3, 7, 8, and 10-15 are all in condition for allowance. Issuance of a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited. The Commissioner is authorized to deduct fees due in connection with this amendment from Deposit Account No. 50-0878.

Respectfully submitted,  
STOUT, UXA, BUYAN & MULLINS, LLP

Date: November 19, 2003

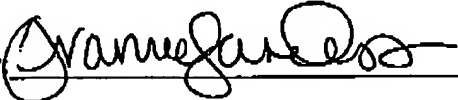
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#### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited via facsimile to (703) 305-7687 addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 2313-1450, on November 19, 2003.

Dated: November 19, 2003

By: 

Francine Sanders, Assistant